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Division:	Operations
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## Contents

1. Introduction42.2

#### 1. Introduction

Kisimul are committed to ensuring that a safe and caring environment is provided at all times for the children and young people entrusted to its care, in order to protect them from harm. This includes the commitment that any concerns about a child or young person are followed up in the

consultants/visiting professionals and children and young people know what should happen and what is expected of them.

This policy has been developed in accordance with the principles established in the Children Act 1989 and 2004 and related guidance. This includes;

Keeping Children Safe in Education - updated yearly (KCSE)
Working Together to Safeguard Children July 2018

ld or Adult at Risk Joint Protocol for

Children's Services and Adult Care

Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Procedures Policy and Procedures Manual. Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP) and Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Partnership (NCSCP).

Nottinghamshire Adults MASH (multi-agency safeguarding hub).

Every setting in which children or young people live away from home, should provide the same basic safeguards against abuse, founded on an approach that promotes their general welfare, protects them from harm of all kinds and treats them with dignity and respect. All children and young people have an individual risk assessment to ensure that all reasonable action has been taken to ensure their safety. As part of the risk assessment, and providing a safe environment for our young people, we use Meas techniques, approved by the British Institute for Learning Disabilities (BILD) to support and understand the function of behaviour.

There may be circumstances where we will need to keep children and young people safe when they display significant behaviours of concern either towards themselves, others and/or property. At these times, staff may use physical intervention in line with their training (BILD Code of Practice 2015) and in line with the individual support plan.

#### 6. What is abuse?

Abuse is a form of maltreatment of a child or young person. Somebody may abuse or neglect a child or young person by inflicting harm or failing to act to prevent harm. Children and young people may be abused in a family or in a residential setting or community setting by those known to them or, more rarely, by others.

Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse. Children and young people may be abused by an adult or adults, or by another child/children or young person/young people. (KCSIE).

7. How we protect children and young people from abuse

all and

procedures and attend the relevant safeguarding training on induction and yearly refreshers thereafter. Levels of training are determined by the role within the organisation and is detailed in each service areas training matrix.

Kisimul recognises the importance of providing an ethos and environment that will help children and young people to feel safe, secure and respected, encourages them to talk openly, and enables them to feel confident that they will be listened to. We recognise that children and young people

who have been abused or have witnessed abuse and/or violence are likely to have low self- esteem and may find it difficult to develop a sense of self-worth which may lead to feelings of helplessness, humiliation and a sense of blame. The chil and predictable element in their lives.

Kisimul will support the welfare and safety of all children and young people through;

Providing suitable support and guidance so that children and young people have a range of appropriate adults to approach if they are in difficulties.

Promoting a positive, supportive, nurturing and secure environment where children and young people can develop a sense of identity and their voice is heard and actively encouraged. (via the appropriate method of communication).

physical safety.

Referring to, and working in partnership with, other agencies where required.

Ensuring all colleagues are able to recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse and are aware of procedures and how to report concerns.

Monitoring children and young people who have been identified as having welfare or protection concerns; keeping confidential records that are stored securely and shared appropriately with other professionals.

Ensuring that at all times, all colleagues and other stakeholders, consider what is in the best interests of the child/young person.

#### 8. Recognition of, and categories of abuse

All colleagues should be aware that abuse, neglect and safeguarding issues are rarely standalone events that can be covered by one definition or label. In most cases multiple issues will overlap with one another. All colleagues should be aware of the definitions and signs and symptoms of abuse which are outlined below.

#### 8.1 Neglect

Neglect is a form of abuse that involves the persistent failure to meet a child or young person's basic physical and/or psychological needs that is likely to result in serious impairment of the child or young person's health or development.

Neglect may occur during pregnancy, for example due to maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to provide adequate food and clothing, shelter, including exclusion from home or abandonment, failing to protect a child or young person from physical and emotional harm or danger, failure to ensure adequate supervision including the use of inadequate care-takers, or the failure to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child or young person's basic emotional needs.

## 8.2 Physical abuse

Physical abuse is a form of abuse that may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child or young person.

Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces illness in a child.

#### 8.3 Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, whether or not the child or young person is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as forced masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children or young people in looking at, or being involved in the producq

Emotional abuse may involve conveying to children and young people that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the individual opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or making fun of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children or young people. This may include interactions that are beyond the child or young person's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the individual participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another and it may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying) causing individuals to frequently feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children/young people and adults at risk.

Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child or young person though it may also occur alone.

#### 8.5 Domestic abuse

Being exposed to domestic abuse has serious consequences for children and young people; and it can affect how they feel, think and behave in harmful ways. Domestic abuse is any type of controlling, bullying, threatening or violent behaviour between people in a relationship. It can seriously harm children and young people and witnessing domestic abuse is child abuse. It is important to remember domestic abuse;

Can happen inside and outside the home

Can happen over the phone, on the internet and on social networking sites

Can happen in any relationship and can continue even after the relationship has ended

All genders can be abused or be abusers.

## 8.6 Child sexual exploitation (CSE)/grooming

The exploitation of children and young people is a form of abuse. The exploitation of children and young people is described as involving exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where

food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of their performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.

### 8.8 Peer on peer abuse

Peer on peer abuse is behaviour by an individual or group, which results in physical, sexual or emotional hurt to others. Peer on peer abuse can occur on any site even with the most robust policies and support processes. It is important to develop appropriate strategies to proactively

When considering the needs of our children and young people within Kisimul services for young people with severe learning difficulties and/or autism, such behaviour is extremely rare. Young people with severe learning difficulties and/or autism rarely engage in such activity, and when peer on peer conflict does occur it is typically unplanned and a consequence of an inability to self-regulate appropriately. Nevertheless, all staff must take any incidents of peer-on-peer conflict seriously. The management team regularly monitor peer on peer incidents for trends.

Occasionally, allegations may be made of a safeguarding nature against children or young people by other children or young. Staff will follow the same protocols as for any other safeguarding concern or allegation. Safeguarding issues from peer abuse could include;

bullying (including cyber bullying and sexting)
gender based violence
sexually harmful behaviour
sexual violence or harassment
physical abuse
prejudiced/discriminatory abuse

#### 8.9 Sexual violence and sexual harassment

Sexual violence and sexual harassment can occur between two children or young people of any age and sex. It can also occur through a group of children sexually assaulting or sexually harassing a single child or group of children. Sexually harmful behaviour from young people is not always contrived or with the intent to harm others. There may be many r g0 (.92 reW\*nBT/F1 m)4(any)-2( r g0 (.9u)3(or

sexual assault/abuse.

All colleagues should be aware of the importance of;

Making it clear that sexual violence and sexual harassment is not acceptable, will never be tolerated and is not an inevitable part of growing up.

Not tolerating or dismissing sexual violence or sexual harassment as banter, part of growing up, just having a laugh or boys being boys for example.

Challenging behaviours (potentially criminal in nature), such as grabbing bottoms, breasts and genitalia, flicking bras and lifting up skirts. Dismissing or tolerating such behaviours risks normalising them.

## 8.10 Female genital mutilation (FGM)

FGM is a collective term for procedures, which include the partial or total removal of the external female genital organs for cultural or other non-therapeutic reasons. It is an extremely harmful practice that violates the most basic human rights.

## What is each

Document Title	Child Protection Policy
Name of person completing equality impact assessment:	Amanda Collins
Date equality impact assessment completed:	27.10.2021 (reviewed 29/12/2022, 06.02.2024 no changes)

Characteristics	Impact		Equality Impact Assessment form
	Yes	No	completed?
Age		х	If comment:
Disability		Х	This policy applies to all equally and has no impact on any protected characteristics.
Ethnicity		X	The pass of the state of the st
Gender		Х	
Religion or belief		х	
Sexual orientation		х	
Socio-economic		Х	
Gender Reassignment		Х	

Maternity/Pregnancy

What is the main purpose or aims of the policy

To ensure those at risk of harm are identified and supported in a consistent way

Who will be the beneficiaries of this policy?

The children and young people we support

Has the policy been explained to those it might affect directly or indirectly?

All actions required in line with this policy will be explained to individuals as relevant

Have you consulted on this policy?

Yes see quality checklist used as part of original policy approval process

# Document change log

The document change log acts as a register of all authorised changes made to this document.

Changes will not be made unless authorised by the document owner.

Description of change	Change made by	Date document republished
V18 reformatted and references to adults at risk removed as separate policy available	EAmbler	Jan 2023
V19- reference made to recording as a serious incident on RADAR and included the need to report without delay. Update on Appendices	A Collins	February 2024